

## NEW PROGRAM SEEKS TO HELP JUVENILE OFFENDERS GET BACK ON TRACK



James Woodley, wearing white shirt, a clinician with Family Service Bureau of Newark, is one of the counselors who is working with the juveniles in the CARE program

Ray (not his real name) is a 16 year old young man who has not had it easy. He is returning from a residential placement through the Juvenile Justice Commission, serving time for car theft and drug charges. Ray's probation officer, along with his mom, know that Ray is a good kid who has made some really poor choices. That's why he was referred to the CARE program at Family Service Bureau of Newark for help.

CARE stands for Comprehensive Adolescent Re-Entry and Empowerment Program and the new initiative is the brainchild of Family Service Bureau (FSB), a New Community affiliate. Unlike other programs, CARE literally meets these young clients where they are—in the offices of their probation counselors, explained Arti Kakkar, executive director of FSB.

"These are kids that have already given up," Kakkar said. "They may be thinking they have been in jail for two years and don't know what is going to happen to them. We want to help them with their reintegration and recovery."

Through CARE, the adolescents have access to the services of FSB licensed clinical social workers and family ther-

apists, who are prepared to help them through issues they may be struggling with, including substance abuse and mental health challenges.

"Kids don't want to go to outpatient services because there is too much of a stigma attached," Kakkar added. "We meet and talk with them in the probation offices until they agree they want to seek more intensive help. Our role is to help make them see they have options and that they can change their lives."

Program officials at CARE also work with the entire family, not just the juvenile, taking a holistic approach to reintegration. If there is a drug problem within the family, an attempt is made to address it by including other members of the family in therapy.

Young people like Ray have made choices, often embarking on a negative path by the time they are 12 years old. FSB sees these young people, who might have begun using alcohol or other drugs at a young age and have a 6 year drug use history by the time they are 17 years old. FSB works with these young people, coordinating services to help them complete high school, get job

## Generosity

*"You have not lived today until you have done something for someone who can never repay you."*

John Bunyan

*"For it is in giving that we receive."*

St. Francis of Assisi

*"Believe, when you are most unhappy, that there is something for you to do in the world. So long as you can sweeten another's pain, life is not in vain."*

Helen Keller

*"The only gift is a portion of thyself."*

Ralph Waldo Emerson

*"You will discover that you have two hands. One is for helping yourself and the other is for helping others."*

Audrey Hepburn

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## Grand Opening of New FSB Office



The Kearny office of Family Service Bureau, a New Community affiliate, recently held a ribbon cutting for a new spacious office at 379 Kearny Avenue in Kearny. The office offers behavioral and mental health services for individuals, couples and families. Pictured from left to right cutting the ribbon at the building's entrance are Kathy Spivey, New Community chief of staff; Cecilia Faulks, Family Service Bureau board chair; Kearny Mayor Alberto Santos; New Community board member Madge Wilson and Arti Kakkar, executive director of Family Service Bureau. The main office of Family Service Bureau is located in Newark.

## Juvenile Offenders...cont'd

skills training, learn interviewing skills, learn how to steer clear of negative peers who will only bring them down and sabotage them, help them with any emotional and/or mental health issues they have and build a foundation for a bright and successful future. Now, at the cusp of adulthood, FSB works with these youth to help them make different choices and take that different path.

The program is being funded by the Essex County Youth Services Commission. For more information on CARE, please call FSB at 973 412-2056.

## Visit From African Dignitary



Lansana Diedhiou, a government official from Senegal, Africa, visited New Community Corporation in August, calling it a "true best practice" for community development. Diedhiou was hoping to bring back to his country programming ideas, especially in the area of job training. Here, he is seen with Monsignor William J. Linder, founder and CEO of New Community Corporation.

## TEACH FOR AMERICA VOLUNTEERS REACH OUT

A total of 20 members of Teach for America, Greater Newark Area Chapter, visited New Community's Harmony House for homeless families over the summer, engaging youngsters in art projects, introducing yoga and providing tutoring in subjects like math and English.

"A big focus of ours is building community and strengthening the resources of those who are already doing great work in the Greater Newark area," said Brittany Guillory, the manager of teacher leadership development for the local Teach for America chapter.

"It's essential that teachers understand that there are great organizations in the community and how they can be helpful to these organizations," added Mike Larson, managing director of the chapter.

Teach for America is a non-profit that aims to eliminate educational inequity by recruiting high achieving recent college graduates and professionals of all backgrounds to teach for two years in urban and rural public schools. During the 2012-2013 school year, more than 10,000 corps members will teach 750,000 students across America.

Brandi Taylor, 10, thanked the group for coming to Harmony House, saying it was obvious they wanted to "make us happy." She also shared that she wanted to be a forensic scientist when she grows up.

Quasin Ricketts, 12, was also appreciative of the visit from the local chapter of Teach for America, especially since their visit took place on a hot, summer day.

"It's hot outside and they came to be with us and most people wouldn't do that," he said.



Volunteers from the local chapter of Teach for America pose for a group shot with children from Harmony House during their visit.



## WALKING THE WALK: CATHOLIC GROUP GIVES BACK THROUGH SERVICE RETREAT



Volunteers from Gospel Roads, Michelle Eyring and Melissa Werthmann, are seen here playing with children from the Community Hills Early Learning Center in Newark.

A volunteer group from South Orange, New Jersey recently visited New Community Corporation for a Christian service retreat and immersed themselves in activities ranging from painting to helping homeless children with homework.

The 14 members of the Salesians of Don Bosco Gospel Roads group traveled around to New Community facilities in Newark like the 180-bed Extended Care Center and Harmony House transitional living facility for homeless families, looking to be a blessing in any way they could.

"It's easy to forget that there are problems that exist so close to home," said Melissa Werthmann, 20, of Clifton, who attends Northeastern University in Boston. "Coming to a place like New Community, you learn so much about why these problems exist and how they happened."

At the New Community Extended Care Center, they sat and talked with residents and played games with individuals attending the Adult Medical Day Care program.

Kevin Cavaluzzo, 20, of the Bronx, New York, said just being able to brighten up someone's day and bring a smile to their face meant a lot to him.

"I'm just looking to give back," said Cavaluzzo, a senior at Iona College in New Rochelle, New York.

Members of the group also helped paint the common areas of two New Community senior buildings and helped out teachers and students at Community Hills Early Learning Center and Harmony House Early Learning Center.

By the end of their two-day service retreat, the group felt like they had really made a difference, with many

expressing amazement at the commitment level of New Community employees in carrying out the organization's mission of improving quality of life.

"It's impressive and very impactful," commented Lia Canavan, 24, a leader of the Gospel Roads group and a clinical social worker. "You are involved in addressing every aspect of people's lives."

Canavan then went on to call the service retreat at NCC "an eye-opening experience," especially as it relates to poverty. "We really can make a difference in people's lives," she said.



Joseph Matara, right, Chief Operating Officer of New Community, talks with Father William Ferruzzi, Chaplain, and other members of the Gospel Roads group during their orientation at New Community Associates.



The volunteers also spent their time painting common areas at New Community senior buildings.



## Frances Teabout



The hats she wears are numerous. Teacher, mentor, motivator, mom, pastor and now, New Community's Director of Mission. Life has come full circle for Frances Teabout, who is back at New Community after serving during the 1990's as a first grade teacher at one of its charter schools and Director of Youth Services.

During her time away from NCC, Teabout attended seminary and worked with a local youth program. Rev. Teabout is very excited about the newly created Director of Mission position. "I'm committed to the mission of New Community," she said. "It's just as relevant now as it was in 1968 when NCC first started."

Improving the lives of inner city residents to reflect individual God-given dignity and personal achievement is what Teabout desires every New Community employee to wake up with on their mind each day. Whether they are working with pre-

school children or helping homeless families trying to get back on their feet, the mission must be the focal point, she insists.

"I want to get all of our employees to really embrace the mission and work towards integrating it in our daily work," explained Teabout, whose last job before returning to New Community was at Rutgers-Newark, where she oversaw a program that sought to increase the number of Newark students who went on to college.

One could never accuse this Princeton Theological Seminary graduate of being "preachy," but Teabout does not hesitate to quote a scripture if it will help illustrate her point. At a recent meeting, she chose Matthew 5:15—"Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house." She went on to explain that New Community has been a light for thousands of

individuals over the last 44 years. "And we must continue to let our light shine."

"Even when we're not physically there at New Community, we can continue fulfilling our mission... living and breathing that mission," says Teabout, the pastor of Open Door Worship Center, which she founded last year in her hometown of Jersey City.

The name of the church comes from the scripture that says, "Behold, I have put before you an open door." An open door is symbolic of growth, blessings and prosperity. Pastor Teabout says that "many of us are living our lives in poverty and despair, but God wants us to have abundant life."

In Newark, she has been meeting with local educators, parents and community leaders in an effort to ensure that New Community's work is having maximum impact in the neighborhoods surrounding its facilities. As New Community embarks upon the celebration of its 45th anniversary in 2013, she is out to make sure the mission of improving quality of life is front and center.

"We want the mission to be the starting point of everything we do," said Teabout, who also holds an undergraduate degree in psychology from Caldwell College and a Master's of Counseling degree from New Jersey City University.

Teabout is quick to point out the similarities between her roles as pastor and Director of Mission. "They are one and the same; my job in both positions is to help people live their best lives."

### OUR MISSION

To help residents of inner cities improve the quality of their lives to reflect individual, God-given dignity and personal achievement.